

9. GIST OF THE ADDRESS BY FOREIGN
MINISTER MATSUOKA SHIGEMITSU.

Delivered at Osaka, November 19, 1943

For a long time Asia was dominated by America and Britain. Its fertile lands were despoiled by the invaders, while the innocent and industrious peoples groaned under their ruthless exploitation.

Then came the War of Greater East Asia. Our fighting forces under the august virtue of our Sovereign set forth on their irresistible march. Like a winter gale blowing dead leaves before it, they swept on, driving the enemy completely out of East Asia. It was this swift and startling progress of the War that brought about the awakening of Asia, and kindled the hearts of various Asiatic peoples with a passionate aspiration for the resurgence of East Asia.

Asia has been roused from its lethargic sleep of centuries. Those of us who had waited with impatience for the reveille, may now hear the brisk resounding tread of Asia on the march. The whole East Asia is awake. To emancipate Asia, to safeguard Asia and to reconstruct Asia is Asia's irrevocable resolve. The total strength of Asia is now being concentrated upon this war for the redemption of Asia. The peoples of Asia who have risen to break once for all the Anglo-American yoke of oppression they had so long endured, are united heart and soul in their determination to erase the blot on their escutcheon of Asia, and write a new chapter in the history of Asia.

Asia is now reverting to its true self. It is no longer an Anglo-American colony. Nevertheless, America and Britain, dreaming still of their old days, want to reconquer Asia; they want to control and oppress it once more. Why are our soldiers and sailors fighting so bitterly day and night on the far-flung battle lines of East Asia? Because America and Britain, desiring to keep Asia forever as colony under their rule, to carry on aggression and exploitation, to deprive Asia of Asiatics, to make of Asia a helpless orphan of the world, to beat and crush Asia, are sending huge expeditionary forces thousands of miles away from home - even to those jungles of plague and pestilence.

Asia is our home. What is more natural than that we should defend Asia with our lives? Should we lose in this war, we would be forever deprived of our homelands, and made each one of us a man

without a country. Accordingly, the current war which is to America and Britain a war for colonies, may be called on our side Asia's War of Independence. America once upon a time won her independence from England after seven years of hard sanguinary war. For America to invade Asia now is to repudiate the life history of her own nation.

The final victory rests always with the just. It is an immutable law of life, amply demonstrated in the pages of the world's history.

This constitutes one reason why victory is ours.

Now that we are winning back Asia by war, how are we to rebuild it in the meanwhile? Construction is predicated upon peace and stability. We must therefore, first deliver East Asia from Anglo-Saxon rule, safeguard it and establish its stability, so that it will not be reconquered and degraded once again into colonial status. Next, construction must be undertaken on the basis of equality and reciprocity. The Joint Declaration issued by the recent Assembly of the East Asiatic Nations, enunciating to the world the five great principles of East Asia construction is based upon sovereignty and independence and upon equality and reciprocity. It may well be termed the "Magna Charter of Greater East Asia." That is why it appealed so universally and so strongly to the peoples of East Asia. That is why the representatives of East Asiatic Nations so wholeheartedly participated in the deliberations of the Assembly. And that is why the declaration was adopted with unanimous approval and acclamation.

The Assembly of Greater East Asia Nations presented an imposing scene rarely witnessed in history. The addresses given by the representatives of the various nations supporting the Joint Declaration were spontaneous outbursts of fiery eloquence, each word gushing forth from the very depth of their hearts. In their utterances one felt the tingling blood of a young Asia, and heard the voice of a new Asia.

There and then did the nations of East Asia find themselves solidly united like one man, firm in the conviction that without Japan there is no Asia, and without Asia there is no Japan.

This is another-the second-reason why victory is ours.

The fifth principle of the Joint Declaration elucidates the aspiration of the East Asiatic nations toward the cultivation of friendship with all countries, and toward the abolition of racial discriminations, free cultural intercourse and opening of resources and contribution thereby to the progress of mankind. This is a straight

forward declaration of our world policy, under which we undertake to strive for the furtherance of world peace, and human progress while carrying on the stupendous enterprise of constructing a new East Asia. What we hope for is the realization of the ideal of universal harmony and goodwill by following together with the rest of the world the great road of freedom and non-discrimination in respect of every question relative to natural resources, commerce, communications, culture, religion, race and what not - that is to say, by keeping the door wide open, materially and spiritually, throughout the world.

Our enemy is busy making public for propaganda purposes his war aims. That in most cases he is "selling dog flesh by displaying a sheep head" is too plain to any one who knows the frequent contradictions in the past between his words and his deeds. At any rate, what the representatives of Greater East Asiatic countries liked most was this Fifth Principle, proving that the vision of these East Asiatic Leaders is not confined to the East, but embraces the entire world - a fact that enlivens all the more our ardour for the prosecution for our common war.

This is another - the third - reason why victory is ours.

Moreover what impressed and inspired the representatives more than anything else was the fact that the Joint Declaration proclaiming such lofty views as these is exactly in line with the spirit on which our Empire is founded. It was with profound emotions that they welcomed the declaration, as they - each and every one - felt they discovered in it the true spiritual aspects of Japan. More than one of them told me privately about it. We follow the universal and timeless principles of humanity. As long as we go bravely forward together with our comrades of East Asia and with an unwavering faith in our common cause, there is not the shadow of a doubt that we can revive the old Asia, and create a new Asia and that even our enemy, America and Britain, will in the end submit to the truth.

This is still another reason why victory is ours.

The 1,000,000,000 peoples of East Asia, sharing in common both joy and sorrow, both weal and woe, and resolved to live and die together, are bearing their respective burdens of responsibilities in the task of constructing East Asia, and they are straining every nerve in order to fulfil the peaceful mission of theirs. The Joint Declaration is indeed a road mark pointing to a new world - a road mark written in the life-blood of the 1,000,000,000 people.

By a happy co-incidence, our peerless fighting forces have achieved a new series of glorious victories in the South Seas, firing the hearts of the teeming millions of East Asia with fresh ardour and enthusiasm. I am fully confident that the work of constructing Greater East Asia will make such progress as will be commensurate with the brilliance of those war results.

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衣、分り知敬烈、辭、關、方、年、公、何、政、子、ア、ニ、テ、カ、何、政、方、
ハ、米、東、西、國、重、細、重、永、久、飯、食、又、既、主、種、民、地、ニ、
止、大、國、重、侵、略、上、軍、取、銀、大、重、細、重、曲、細、重、人、手、有、取、上、
分、重、細、重、ニ、テ、止、方、近、キ、世、界、ノ、孤、兒、ノ、人、重、細、重、打、毀、
粉、碎、シ、ト、リ、命、子、重、細、重、高、一、瘡、痛、密、杯、中、ニ、テ、大、
遠、征、軍、ヲ、送、ニ、年、比、カ、ア、ニ、テ、
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Dear

亞細亞、我々、東洋にあり、我々、生命ヲ以テ亞細亞ヲ
 保護スルコトホド其ノ事アリ。萬一此、戰、負ケ
 ルコトガアルハ、我々、永久ニ祖國ヲ失ヒ一人一人亡國、民トナル
 アリ。故ニ我々、植民地獲得ヲ爲シ、此、戰、我
 々、側ニハ、亞細亞、独立戰爭ト呼ビ、元ヨリナリ。我
 々、此、國ハ七年間、苦戰シ、後、英、國ヨリ、独立ヲ獲
 得ス。今、我々、此、國ハ今更ニ亞細亞ニ侵入スルコトハ自國ハ
 我々、拒否スルコトナリ。

力ニ米帝國ハ七年間、苦戰ヲ戦、後、英帝國ヨリ、独立ヲ獲得スルノ事ナシ。米國ハ今更ニ胡ニ侵入スルトハ自國一、
史ヲ拒否スルコトナラズ。

最敗、勝利ハ常ニ正義ト共ニアリマス。ソレハ世界ニ亙諸
國、隨處ニ亦サシム人生不易、法則デアリマス。

幣利の錢を、元金に還す、一ハコニ付シタル

我々ハ戦争ニヨリ亞細亞下リモト、ソツアルナ下ルカウ迄、當
テシテ如何ニシテ再建スベキヤカニ少カ。建設ハ平和ト安定ニ基
クモナラズ。故ニ先ヅ我々ハ亞細亞ヲ再び征服セシ植民地的
状態ニオトサシ大東亞英國、チヨウ救ニ出シ擁護シ
ソ安定ヲ確立セヌバニ又ガナラス。友ニ平等ナル相互主義ニモト
イテ建設ヲ行ハスベキナリセシ。最近ノ大東亞會議ニ依ッテ愈々
多ク之思ヘ。大東亞建設五大陸綱領ヲ宣言シ共同宣言
ハ主權ト獨立、平等ナル相互主義ニ具シ其基礎ヲ置道イテ年ル
ナリト云フ。ソレハ「大東亞五大洲宣言」ト呼ビテ之ヲ知アリモ也。
ソレガ要旨、諸國民ニ大々且強ク其地ヲ守ル所以ハ此ニ
アリタリ。東亞諸國家、代表者連カケテ、會議、審議ニ
参加シテ理由モココニ下ルナリト云フ。ソレヲ又コト宣言カ万場
發、發表シ大鳴采ヲ以テ採用サレタ。理由モ茲ニ釋スルナリト云フ。

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大東亞會議、史之稱ニハ割目ニキ光景ニ至リタリ。

其間宣言書、東隣、為ニ各國代表ニテ、演説、後、各、心、與、底、之、一語、一語、進、出、又、如、新、在、且、然、故、鐵、道、之、主、義、從、年、設、會、中、二、人、之、若、其、更、細、述、點、之、無、以、感、之、新、主、

細述、之、意、ヲ、以、テ、一、言、一、語、

此、時、政、底、處、於、南、亞、協、同、(日本、之、三、無、細、述、主、人、要、調、整、ナ、ク、日本、二、一、六、四、年、佳、節、ヲ、以、テ、然、之、人、同、

幕、後、之、經、済、ニ、上、リ、自、實、ニ、シ、テ、人、

之、利、益、ヲ、以、テ、主、義、一、方、ニ、一、理、由、ヲ、以、テ、

之、同、宣、言、ノ、中、五、番、目、綱、領、ハ、全、國、之、以、交、證、增、進、

展、望、之、利、益、自、由、之、他、之、交、際、上、之、源、因、發、展、

依、人類、發展、二、項、ニ、對、ス、東、亞、諸、國、民、

熱、望、ヲ、明、瞭、ナ、ラ、シ、メ、テ、一、方、ニ、之、我、々、之、東、

政、策、不、率、直、ト、宣、言、ス、リ、ハ、モ、ト、我、々、一、方、ニ、新、

東、亞、建、設、大、計、畫、ヲ、宣、行、ス、ル、以、テ、東、亞、平、和、

助、長、ト、人類、發展、ノ、多、ク、ニ、努、力、ス、ル、事、ト、ス、ル、

又、我、々、之、希、望、ニ、テ、有、ル、モ、全、世、界、ノ、人、々、之、地、

自然、資源、(貿易、) 交通、又、他、信、仰、禮、儀、等、

ノ、三、此、問題、二、關、ス、ル、自、由、無、差、別、大、道、ト、云、

コ、ニ、三、ツ、テ、一、即、チ、物質、的、ニ、モ、精、神、的、ニ、モ、全、世、界、

ト、通、ス、ル、一、戸、ヲ、鑰、ヲ、解、放、ス、ル、事、ト、ス、ル、

世、界、諸、國、之、好、意、ト、理想、ヲ、實現、ス、ル、事、ト、ス、ル、

リ、タリ。

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我等、敵、其、戰爭目的、公法に當り、宣傳、實に與ふべき收り
有爲なりとの大信、大抵、場合、年頭、獨り、獨り、獨り、
類、此等、過去、於て其の言行、向て屢々、今在る矛盾ヲ知
誰主ニ取リテ、明々白々タル事ナラズ、何れモセテ、又東亞諸
國、我族層達、最も好む所、此等東亞、指導者、權柄
が東洋ニ限定アリ、全世界を完全スルコト一ツは、我々共同、
戦争遂行、然意、尚一層奮起ニ立タレバ、一ツ証明
され、五國、領土、多ク、多ク、多ク。

己が勝利、我方に在り、一十三、理由アリマス。
 更に此等代表者、何物主之ヲ感銘ヲ與ヘ假令其致
 辭ニモ「稀ニ有遠見意圖ヲ闡明セバ同宣言ガ正シク、
 我々帝國建國精神ト致言スル事實アリ」云々。假令
 一人ガ又其共同宣言中日本員精神の方面を發覺
 スルモノナラバ、假令其共同宣言ヲ述ビ深恩も感動以テ
 多量ナルハ、假令其一人ガ之ヲ就テ個人的私語ヲ
 ナリタカ、我々此萬古普遍人道原則ニ從モザリマス。
 我々東亞我々仲間相携ヘ我々共通自的於テ不動
 信念以テ勇猛邁進ス限リ、我々ガ亞細亞ヲ再興シ新
 年亞細亞ヲ創設シ得ルコト及ビ我々敵米英ガモ遂ニ絶
 息無キモノナラバ、真ノ疑ヒヨカニ分ル餘地モナイデヤ
 リマス。此ガ勝利、我方、一十四、理由アリマス。
 東亞十億民、吾等志士モ、寧モ不幸モ災ニ付ケ合
 ヒ同生共死、斯言ヲ以テ國々東亞建設任務ニ於テ各經

5.00

